

The anterior *tibiæ* are unarmed, the others are provided with small spurs; the hind *claws* are finely appendiculate, so that the extremity appears very slender.

The great length of the lobes and the abbreviation, or concealment, of the fourth joint of the antennæ differentiate this species.

Length  $3\frac{1}{2}$ , breadth  $\frac{5}{8}$  line.

Tarukenga. Two males taken off shrubs in the bush adjoining the Rotorua Railway.

*Rhy pistena sulciceps.*

*Opaque*, black, clothed with depressed ash-coloured pubescence; the hairs on the head are, however, more distinct and almost quite grey; legs fuscous, the front *tibiæ* and the two anterior pairs of *tarsi* are of a pale chestnut colour.

Similar to *R. lugubris*, but differing therefrom in being more distinctly, yet finely, and more densely punctured, in having a well-marked furrow on the back of the head, and in the antennal structure. The basal joint of the antennæ is almost as long as the following two conjointly, the third is not twice the length of the second, the fourth is very short, and the lobes of the others are stouter than those of that insect. The *tibiæ*, excepting the front pair, have short slender spurs.

Length  $3\frac{3}{4}$ , breadth  $\frac{3}{4}$  line.

Mount Arthur. One example found by Messrs. Cheeseman and Adams many years ago.

[To be continued.]

IX.—*Description of a new Species of the Neuropterous Family Nemopteridæ.* By W. F. KIRBY, F.L.S., F.E.S.

SINCE the publication of my notes on this family in the 'Annals' for 1800, the most important addition to it received in the Natural History Museum has been a long series of a new and rather variable species from Asia Minor, which I describe below. I was at first inclined to think that more than one species might be represented among these specimens, but cannot find any tangible characters to subdivide them. The insects of this family, though of considerable size and probably gregarious in their habits, are very frail, and are rarely received in any number or in good condition.

The present insect is most nearly allied to my genus *Chasmatoptera*, the type of which is an Australian insect; but it is not unlikely that it may ultimately be referred to a new

genus, when the already described but imperfectly known allied forms, and others which no doubt remain to be discovered, can be fully studied.

### Genus CHASMATOPTERA.

*Chasmatoptera*, Kirb. Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) vi. p. 462 (1900).

The rather short, stout, and strongly pubescent antennæ are quite sufficient to separate the type of this genus (*Nemoptera Huttii*, Westw., from Australia) and the new species described below from *Halter*, Ramb., in the typical species of which the antennæ are slender, naked, and longer than the body.

#### *Chasmatoptera Sheppardi*, sp. n.

##### Dimensions.

	♂.	♀.
	mm.	mm.
Long. corp. ....	12-14	13-14
Exp. al. ant. ....	36-40	38-46
Long. al. post. ....	28-33	30-34

Antennæ entirely black; head black above, often marked with yellow behind; face yellow, with a broad black median stripe extending to the end of the rostrum. Thorax black above, often spotted with yellow, especially in the male; abdomen black above, with yellow incisions, and in the male with yellow dots between. Under surface of the body mostly yellow, of abdomen often reddish. Wings clear hyaline, with brown nervures; costal nervure slenderly blackish; subcostal nervures and sometimes intermedian space yellowish. Hind wings with the shaft yellow, with two black dots on the outer side and one on the inner; at the extreme base short transverse lateral lines are sometimes visible. Beyond the middle the wing expands into a very broad spatulate lobe, with reticulated neuration, followed by a smaller and narrower one, and then by a short terminal lobe, rounded at the end. The lobes are purplish brown, and in the male are preceded by a white space; and the contracted part of the wing between the lobes is white on each side, the shaft always remaining dark; in the female both lobes are often entirely dark, but the terminal lobe is always white.

*Hab.* Amanus Mountains, Asia Minor (*Dr. Sheppard*).

Much resembles the South African *Nemoptera dilatata*, Klug, which is probably congeneric if the antennæ are pubescent, which the figure and description do not show. In that species, however, the head is yellow above.